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Dated: August 3, 2007

Electronic Signature for Izumi Yokoyama, Ph.D.: /Izumi Yokoyama, Ph.D./

Docket No.: V9661.0069  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application of: Joseph S. Peiris et al.

Confirmation No.: 2460

Application No.: 10/808,121

Art Unit: 1648

Filed: March 24, 2004

Examiner: L. Humphrey

For: A NOVEL HUMAN VIRUS CAUSING  
SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY  
SYNDROME (SARS) AND USES THEREOF

New York, NY  
August 3, 2007

**URGENT STATUS INQUIRY**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is respectfully requested that the attorney named below be urgently advised of the status of the above-identified application. Applicants filed an Amendment after Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 ("Amendment") on April 4, 2007, which was within two months from the issuance of the Final Action on February 7, 2007.

The undersigned phoned Examiner Humphrey on July 17, 2007 and today and was informed that the application had been considered allowable and forwarded to a special committee for the final review. However, we have not received any communication from the Office since our submission of the Amendment. Since the six-month date from the issuance of the Final Action is **August 7, 2007**, unless we hear from the Office by the date, Applicants will have no choice but to file a Notice of Appeal together with a petition for extension of time for three (3) months with the fees, in order to keep the application alive. Considering the probable allowance of the application, the undersigned respectfully

and urgently request that the Office advise us of the status of the application ***as soon as possible***.

Dated: August 3, 2007

Respectfully submitted,  
Electronic signature: /Izumi Yokoyama,  
Ph.D./  
Izumi Yokoyama, Ph.D.  
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